(b) what are the plan and time schedule for restructuring of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKARSINH VAGHELA) : (a) BIFR approved a rehabilitation and revival plan for 53 out of the total of 119 mills of NTC in the year 2002. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between union of viable mills and mill managements envisaged implementation of the rehabilitation scheme within a period of 2 years through sale of assets.

(b) As per the approved plan 65 mills have been closed and the surplus employees have opted MVRS (Modified VRS). Due to lower realization from sale of assets, the revival plan could not be implemented within the stipulated time *i.e.* two years. The Ministry of Textiles has extended implementation period of restructuring plan for another one year *i.e.* upto March, 2005. The process of sale of assets is in progress.

Textiles mills in Nagaland

879. SHRI T. R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of textiles mills in the State of Nagaland on 30th June, 2004;

(b) the performance of these mills during the last three years;

(c) the details of textiles mills run by the private sector, cooperative sector and Government sector, sector-wise, in the State;

(d) the details of sick/closed mills out of them; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKARSINH VAGHELA) : (a) There is no cotton/man made fibre/exclusive weaving/woolen mill registered in the State of Nagaland.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Pay package for NTC mills staff

880. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the recent judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding the pay package of the NTC mills staff;

(b) if so, the details thereon;

(c) whether Government directed the NTC mill management to sanction the above enhanced pay to the workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKARSINH VAGHELA) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Pursuant to orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 14.10.2003 in Civil Appeal No. 14572 of 1996 filed by clerical staff unions claiming parity in pay with clerical staff in Corporate Offices, the Government has directed NTC management to sanction the following reliefs:

(1) the basic of employees affected by the Supreme Court order may be fixed with effect from 1.4.2004 by including the following amounts:

  (i) Basic Pay as on 1.1.1997 + *Ad-hoc* payments if any + HCA (High Cost Allowance payable to some employees @ Rs. 30/- to Rs. 45/- per month) if any.

  (ii) Corresponding DA as on 1.1.1997

  (iii) 20% of the (i) + (ii) if there has been no revision since 1987.

(2) The new Basic Pay will be determined by placing the basic in a revised scale of pay, which will be worked out by NTC.

(3) DA would be paid for every point increase above the quarterly average index above 1708 as is being paid to the IDA employees on 100% neutralization basis with effect from 1.4.2004. There will be no revision of HRA and other allowances.

Branches of National Handicraft Development Corporation

†881. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States in the country where branches of National Handicraft Development Corporation are functioning;

(b) whether any branch of National Handicraft Development Corporation is functioning in Bihar;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.